

A-23

DOS Review  
Completed.

ON-FILE NSC RELEASE  
INSTRUCTIONS APPLY

TOP SECRET

EYES ONLY

SENSITIVE

SENT

T O P S E C R E T 250446Z APR 72 SENSITIVE EYES ONLY VIA BUNKER  
CHLS 1972 APR 25 05 22

WHS2054

APRIL 24, 1972

MORI/CDF Pages 1-2 per C05080816

TO: AMBASSADOR ELLSWORTH BUNKER

FROM: HENRY A. KISSINGER

REF: SAIGON 0074

1. THANK YOU FOR YOUR EARLIER REPORTS OF YOUR CONVERSATIONS WITH  
PRESIDENT THIEU (SAIGON 0072, 0073)

2. WITH RESPECT TO REFERENCE MESSAGE, AMBASSADOR PORTER HAS  
BEEN INSTRUCTED TO KEEP AMBASSADOR LAM INFORMED IN ACCORDANCE  
WITH GVN WISHES. HOWEVER, AMBASSADOR PORTER WILL NOT RECEIVE  
THIS INFORMATION UNTIL OPENING OF BUSINESS PARIS TIME,  
TUESDAY, APRIL 25 (APPROXIMATELY 1500 SAIGON TIME.)

3. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF STATEMENT WHICH WILL BE MADE AT NOON,  
WASHINGTON TIME, TUESDAY, APRIL 25 CONCERNING MY TRIP:

BEGIN TEXT

BETWEEN APRIL 20 AND APRIL 24, DR. HENRY A. KISSINGER,  
ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT FOR NATIONAL SECURITY AFFAIRS,  
WAS IN MOSCOW TO CONFER WITH THE GENERAL SECRETARY OF THE  
CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE CPSU BREZHNEV AND FOREIGN MINISTER  
GROMYKO. THE DISCUSSIONS DEALT WITH IMPORTANT INTERNATIONAL  
PROBLEMS AS WELL AS WITH BILATERAL MATTERS PREPARATORY TO  
THE TALKS BETWEEN PRESIDENT NIXON AND SOVIET LEADERS IN MAY.

END TEXT

4. IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT THE GVN MAKE NO PUBLIC STATEMENTS ABOUT MY TRIP TO MOSCOW SINCE THIS COULD BLOW THE WHOLE THING. YOU WILL NOTE FROM THE FOREGOING TEXT THAT SOVIETS WOULD NOT AGREE TO SPECIFIC MENTION OF VIETNAM. THEREFORE IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT GVN MAKE NO COMMENT ABOUT MY VISIT TO MOSCOW AND ESPECIALLY THAT THEY MAKE NO REFERENCE TO THE FACT THAT VIETNAM WAS DISCUSSED. WE WILL SUBTLY TAKE CARE OF THAT HERE. THE TEXT BY ITSELF INFERS THAT VIETNAM WAS DISCUSSED AND NEEDS NO FURTHER ELABORATION. THIS IS A MOST IMPORTANT ISSUE IN WHICH THE GVN'S COOPERATION IS CRUCIAL. IT IS, OF COURSE, EQUALLY IMPORTANT THAT NO REFERENCE BE MADE TO MY MOSCOW VISIT BY LAM OR PORTER WHEN THEY ARE QUESTIONED ABOUT OUR RETURN TO THE PLENARY SESSION ON APRIL 27, AND PORTER HAS BEEN SO INSTRUCTED. PLEASE USE YOUR STRONGEST INFLUENCE TO ENSURE THAT NO REFERENCE IS MADE TO MY MOSCOW MEETING AND ESPECIALLY TO THE FACT THAT VIETNAM WAS DISCUSSED AT THE MEETING. YOU MAY ASSURE THIEU THAT MATTER WILL BE HANDLED HERE IN A WAY CONSISTENT WITH UNDERSTANDABLE SOVIET SENSITIVITY. YOU MAY ALSO INFORM THIEU THAT HANOI HAS AGREED TO MEET SECRETLY ON MAY 2 WITH STRONG URGING FROM SOVIETS. IT IS ALSO SIGNIFICANT THAT KATUSHEV THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE SECRETARY IS DUE TO ARRIVE IN HANOI FROM MOSCOW ON APRIL 24.

WARM REGARDS.

**TOP SECRET**

**EYES ONLY**

**SENSITIVE**